CONFIDENTIAL 16 Approved For Release 2008/06/25 : CIA-RDP82-00457R009700280005-4 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT INFORMATION REPORT CD NO. 25X1 DATE DISTR. 10 fon 52 COUNTRY Yugoslavia Government Reaction to Peasants' NO. OF PAGES SUBJECT Desire to Leave the Collectives PLACE 005 cument No. __ **ACQUIRED** Change in Class. 25X1 EMENT TO Declassified DATE OF ass. Changed To: TS S INFO. 25X1 THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 1. UDB and propagandists of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia (CPY) undertook a wide campaign during October 1951 to put a halt to the numerous withdrawals of farmers from the Seljacka Radna Zadruga (SRZ; Peasant Workers' Cooperative). Members of the UDB have been overheard telling peasants that they would be killed if they tried to abandon the SRZ.
- 2. The following are specific examples of incidents which occurred in the Vrsac area in Tugoslavia during the month of October:
 - a. In the village of Ilandza, the Popovic brothers were jailed because they applied for withdrawal from the SRZ;
 - b. In the village of Kuzic, numerous peasants were jailed because they applied for withdrawal from the SRZ and requested that their land, which they had brought into the SRZ, be returned to them;
 - e. Seven peasants in the village of Sv. Jovan (Barice) asked for their release from the SRZ. They were immediately arrested by the UDB and beaten;
 - d. B. Djonin, a lawyer in Vrsac, prepared numerous applications for peasants who wished to withdraw from the SRZ. On 22 September 1951 he was arrested and imprisoned for 21 days. Because of failing health and the intervention of friends in Belgrade, he was finally released from jail;
 - e. UDB interrogated Radovan Putnik, also a lawyer in Vrsac, because he had prepared an application for a peasant who wished to withdraw from the SRZ;
 - f. Sofija Pancevac was discharged from her job in a Government office in Vrace because she had prepared applications for her brother and an uncle who wished to withdraw from the SRZ; and
 - g. The village of Boka had about 700 persons registered with the SRZ. The group was almost unanimously in favor of requesting release from the SRZ, but all the applications were rejected. Of this group, many peasants were jailed and some badly beaten by the UDB. One man, who was suspected by

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the UDB of having talked the peasants into quitting the SRZ, was found hanging from a tree near the village. Local authorities stated that the man most likely had committed suicide. Among the peasants seeking release from the SRZ many were CPY members.

- 3. Many members of the SRZ refused to harvest their corn crop this year. The authorities took the following measures in an effort to save the crop:
 - a. Toward the end of September, a large number of peasants from Macedonia were sent to the Vojvodina to harvest the corn. Each peasant was given free room and board plus 200 kilograms of corn for every hectare harvested; and
- b. In some of the larger SRZ units, Yugoslav Army personnel assisted in the harvesting of the crop.

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in the Vrsac area, over 190 hectares of corn were left unharvested in that region.

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on the subject of resistance to collectives, the above information appears to be more illustrative.

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